(c) National Development Council (NDC) accords special status to the States as per the following guidelines:

- Strategic location on the border with neighbouring countries;
- Hilly terrains;
- Inadequate economic and Social infrastruture;
- Predominantly large tribal population; and
- Limited and weak resource base compared to development needs.

Accordingly the funding pattern for the Special Category States has been adopted under APDRP.

Dual Citizenship to NRIs

†*109. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide dual citizenship to Non-Resident Indians residing abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The Government of India has introduced Registration of Overseas Indian Citizenship to People of Indian Origin (PIO) who are citizens of one of the sixteen specified countries. The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2003, Citizenship (second Amendment) Rules 2004 and Citizenship (Thrid Amendment) Rules, 2004 have been notified to operationalize the scheme.

Participation of STs in Army, Navy and Air Force

*110. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the participation rate of Scheduled Tribes in Army, Navy and Air Force is poor;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether separate data of number of STs in Defence forces is maintained; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Recruitment in the Armed Forces is based on merit and is open to every citizen of the country including Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Class candidates without any discrimination on the basis of their caste, creed, religion or region. Hence no separate data about participation of Scheduled Tribes candidates is maintained by the Armed Forces.

Naxalites rise and menace in Karnataka

*111. DR. VIJAY MALLYA:
SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware about rise in Naxalite activities in Karnataka in Chikmagalur and Mangalore districts, spread over Western Ghats area;

(b) if so, what are the steps taken to prevent naxalite activities;

(c) whether the living of Tribal people in those areas is being disturbed and dislocated; and

(d) what are the steps taken by the State Government to rehabilitate these Tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b) The CPML-PW and its front bodies are spreading their activities on the issue of eviction of tribals from the Kudremukh National Park in Malenadu region, comprising the districts of Chikmagulur, Shimoga, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Hassan and Kodagu.

The Central Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy to tackle the problem of naxalism which includes (a) having a peace dialogue by